AIMS Coordinators Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2004
Johnson County Transit Building

Announcements

MAGIC Conference

The 9th Biennial MidAmerica GIS Symposium (MAGIC Conference) will be held April 18-22, at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City MO.

ASPRS 2004 Fall Conference

The American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing (ASPRS) 2004 Fall Conference will be held in Kansas City, MO September 11-16 2004.

Fundamentals of Photogrammetry

In this first section of the meeting, the basics about capturing Aerial images such as camera selection (Traditional vs. Digital), image overlap, and the use of LIDAR to capture DEM or DTM data. Also discussed was the difference between a traditional orthophoto and a true orthophoto, as well as the ability to capture three dimensional data, using image stereo pairs.

Demo of Data Collection Software and Procedures

This portion of the meeting was set aside for a demonstration of the data capture software used at Western Air Maps that uses the image stereo pairs to allow the technician the ability to view features in a three dimensional fashion, increasing the accuracy and speed of the data collection process.

Disscussion of Socset

Socset is the data capture software that Western Air Maps uses to do their data collection. This software gives them the ability to quickly capture two dimensional features, and also allows them to capture three dimensional features if those are desired. The ability to view the aerial images as stereo pairs also improves feature position, feature capture speed, and image analysis, although this does require more expertise and software. With the next release of Socset Western Air Maps will be able to allow three dimensional viewing directly in Arc Gis 9.

What others are doing, and other photography options

Other counties and cities in the Midwest are doing Orthophoto and Planimetric updates at varying frequencies. Some get Ortho's every year and others only get them every 2 or 3 years. Planimetrics vary from being completely updated every year to doing spotty updates in the larges growth areas every couple of years to only doing updates every 5 years. Another part of this discussion was that earlier versions of ESRI software aren't capable of displaying imagery greater than 8-bit, thus the user can't take full advantage of higher bit imagery. Another topic was satellite imagery verses flown imagery, Satellite imagery has a higher percent allowance for cloud cover, and they have no control over sun angle, compared to flown imagery, and there is no real price difference for the end customer. Also discussed was the fact that there is no real price difference between digital and traditional film cameras right now, because of the increased cost, and shorter return on investment time of the current digital cameras, although turn around time would be faster with a digital camera because it removes several initial steps to get film into digital form.